

## WILSON MAY AVERT STRIKE

Meets Parties and Settlement Basis Seems in Sight

## CONFER AGAIN TODAY

Executive Giving His Entire Attention to Prevention of Railroad Tieup.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The railroad managers in conference this morning with President Wilson indicated a willingness to accept the principle of a shorter working day for their employees and proposed that the details concerning the application of this principle be investigated by a special commission to be appointed by the President or created in any other manner that he might think best.

This proposition was laid before the representatives of the brotherhoods by President Wilson at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Because of the threatened railroad strike, the War Department today suspended indefinitely the proposed movement to the border of between 25,000 and 35,000 militiamen mobilized in State camps, and last week ordered to the Mexican line.

The reason for suspending the order is a possible shortage of supplies and difficulty of obtaining transportation for the men. It has no connection, it is said, with possible use of the troops during the threatened strike.

Until further orders are issued, none of the organizations preparing to leave State camps will be sent to the border.

The order to keep the militiamen at their mobilization camps was issued on recommendation of General Funston.

Washington, Aug. 15.—President Wilson conferred yesterday with both parties to the threatened country-wide railway strike and last night it appeared that sufficient foundation had been laid to furnish a working basis for a settlement of the differences of the employees and employers. The President met both sides again tomorrow.

At the conclusion of yesterday's conferences the President issued this statement:

"I have both sides and have gone over the case with the utmost frankness. I shall not be able to judge until tomorrow whether we have found a feasible basis for settlement."

The foremost questions are what shall be arbitrated, if arbitration is to be resorted to, and what form of arbitration shall be adopted. Representatives of the employees maintain that their demand for an eight-hour day and time and a half for overtime is the only concrete proposition under discussion. They insisted to the President in their conference today that the railroads make some definite counter proposal. If the railroads submitted some proposed form of settlement they said, they would be ready to discuss negotiations further.

The employees are understood to be ready to consent to the principle of arbitration if the contingent proposals from the managers, which the men claim involve rights they have won in 30 years effort, are eliminated from consideration and if arbitration is conducted by a board on which all four brotherhoods are represented.

Immediately after learning the employees' position the President summoned the committee of managers and held a long conference with them. They left the White House to confer among themselves throughout the night, if necessary, and the general understanding was that they discussed the advisability of withdrawing their "contingency" proposals and submitting a proposition "without strings," as demanded by the men.

While representatives of the employees insisted that they had not yet agreed to arbitrate any feature of their differences there was a growing impression that arbitration or some form of compromise would be agreed upon. At no time, it was stated, did the representatives of the men in-

## COULD TIE UP RAILROADS

Garretson Says Brotherhoods Could Block All Traffic.

## WORK OF A MINUTE

Declares Industrial Plea Need Can No Longer Prevail as Excuse for Oppression.

Washington, Aug. 15.—"Industrial necessity is a plea that is the excuse for every kind of injustice and oppression known," A. B. Garretson, head of the delegation of railroad labor leaders here in conference with President Wilson, declared today.

"It was the case in France some years ago, when that nation suspended its constitutional guarantees to keep from a general railroad strike.

"This was perhaps the greatest violation of constitutional rights in late years.

"Whenever anything comes up where the money kings do not want to give us a fair share, they claim that it is an industrial necessity to continue in the old state. But the history of civilization has proved that it is not."

"What about moving the Government mails?" Mr. Garretson was asked.

"It is the railroads who have the contract to do that, not the men," he responded emphatically. "It's up to them to do it. I don't see that we have any reason to supply men to them for this. They will have to find them."

Speaking of the time required to tie up the railroads of the country, the union leader said:

"I should say that in one minute after the strike hour arrived, the transportation facilities of the United States would be paralyzed. It will not take much longer than that at any rate."

Garretson characterized claims of the managers that they can run without the unions as a case of "whistling to keep up their courage. That is all hot air. If there is a strike, there will be a complete tie-up."

"We are not worrying about the funds," he added. "We have money aplenty to finance this strike. It is true it will be the biggest ever in the world."

dicating that unless their demands were granted unconditionally they would go on strike.

Both sides refused absolutely to discuss their meeting with the President or venture any forecast on the probable outcome of the negotiations, but leaders of the two factions were optimistic tonight that a strike would be avoided.

Boston, Aug. 15.—An inquiry by the Interstate Commerce Commission into the threatened railroad strike would not be a remedy for the crisis at the present moment. President Wilson said in a letter received by President Charles F. Weed, of the Boston Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

The issues involved may be summed up as follows:

Brotherhoods of Conductors, Engineers, Firemen and Trainmen ask for basic eight-hour day and time and a half for overtime.

Number of men directly involved in strike demand, 400,000.

Total number of men involved, 2,155,000.

Number of railroad systems involved, 225.

Mileage involved, 270,000.

Numbers of railroad cars that will be stopped if strike is called, 2,507,977.

Arbitration was almost unanimously rejected by employees. Both sides accepted President Wilson's invitation to confer with him before final decision.

More than 94 per cent of the 400,000 of the employees directly involved have voted to strike if original demands are not granted.

Hard and soft shell crabs on sale at the Rammel Hotel Cafe.

## Alexandria City News Condensed

The Willard W. C. T. U. will meet in Trinity Methodist Church tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Cool weather, which began Sunday evening, in marked contrast to the oppressive heat that has visited this city, for the past few weeks, is now being enjoyed by Alexandria.

A guard from Trenton, N. J., came here today for Charles Hemphill, who is an escaped lunatic. Hemphill, it will be remembered, stole a horse and buggy belonging to Mrs. Henry Blount from King and Pitt streets some time ago.

Mrs. Charles H. Burroughs, a former resident of this city, died last night at her home, 1305 East Capitol street, N. E., in Washington. She was a daughter of the late Dr. J. W. Bull, of this city. She is survived by her husband. Her body will probably be brought to this city and interred here.

Contributions for the Anne Lee Memorial Home for the aged have been received from the several Sunday schools in the city as follows: M. E. Church South, \$10; Seventh Day Adventists \$5; First Baptist, \$5; St. Mary's \$5; Methodist Protestant church, \$2; Grace Church, \$2.41; Trinity Methodist Church, \$2.25; Christ Church, \$2.50; St. Paul's Church \$1.32.

Arrangements are being made by Martha Washington Chapter, No. 42, Order of the Eastern Star, to send a large delegation to the annual reunion of the orders of the Eastern Star from the States of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, which will be held Thursday, August 24, at Pen Mar, Pa. It is expected that a large number of members of the local order will be present at the meeting.

**WOMAN'S SCALP TORN OFF.**  
Miss Weedon, of Occoquan, Victim of Serious Accident.

Miss Virginia Weedon, daughter of Mrs. Hood Weedon, of Occoquan, lies at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, in a dangerous condition, as the result of an accident on the Potomac river Sunday, in which her hair became entangled in the driving shaft of a propeller of a motor boat and her scalp was torn off. Miss Weedon had just been rescued from drowning, and was being rushed to shore in the motor boat when the scalping accident occurred.

Dr. Charles Stanley White, who performed an operation on Miss Weedon's head when she was taken to Washington, says he thinks the young woman will recover. She was bathing in the river off Occoquan with a party of friends, when she swam out beyond her depth and was rescued from drowning by several members of her party and others nearby in a motor boat belonging to Fred Woodyard of Occoquan. Miss Weedon was then in an exhausted condition, and was laid in the bottom of the motor boat, as Mr. Woodyard steered for shore.

Miss Weedon's hair, which had become unbound during her rescue from drowning, became entangled in the driving shaft of the propeller of the boat, while Mr. Woodyard was giving his attention to the management of the boat, and before he could stop the motor Miss Weedon's scalp was torn off and much of her hair was torn out by the roots.

### ERRATUM.

A typographical error appeared in the Gazette yesterday, making an article recounting the restoration of Mrs. Warren's tomb in Christ Church yard read that Mrs. Warren was the wife of William Warren, a theatrical magnate of "this" day and generation, when it should have been "his" day and generation, as the Warrens lived years ago.

**DEVILED & HARD SHELLED CRABS AT JACOB BRILL'S FOOT KING STREET.**

### PERSONAL MENTION

Mrs. Charles King is spending the remainder of the summer in Charlottesville.

Hunt Russell is spending a few days with friends at Staunton and Roanoke.

James S. Douglas, Jr., and Windsor Snowden have gone to Charlestown, West Virginia, for several days.

Miss Minnie Mangum, of Portsmouth, is visiting Miss Vivian Burkett, at 216 south St. Asaph street.

Mrs. Charles C. Carlin and Miss Minnie Henderson are spending the remainder of the summer at Eagles Mere Park, Pa.

Mrs. Taylor Burke is the guest of her parents, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Mason, in Richmond, for a short while.

Mr. and Mrs. Nevell K. Rodgers left this morning for a two weeks' sojourn in Atlantic City, and New York.

Miss Christina Kemper and Miss Bertha Waite, of Rosemont, have left to spend the remainder of the summer at Warm Springs, Va.

Mrs. C. E. Butler, accompanied by her daughter Miss Florence Butler and sons Joseph and Edward has gone to Culpeper on a visit to relatives and friends.

Miss Marion Low, of Philadelphia, arrived today to be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Henry O'Bannon Cooper, at their home in Braddock Heights. Mrs. Cooper and her sister, Miss Wallace Low, of Blackstone, Va., who has been her guest for a number of weeks, have recently returned from a trip to Virginia Beach. Arthur White, of New York, was a guest last week of Mr. Cooper.

### SOCIALIST ARRESTED

Incident Causes Excitement in Washington Last Night.

Amid the cheers and occasional hisses of more than 5,000 people, Julian Pierce, Socialist orator, was arrested last night at Eighth street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest, Washington. He was taken to the First Precinct police station, charged with speaking without a permit. His permit, under which he has held meetings all summer, was revoked by Major Pullman on Saturday.

Pierce was allowed to talk for about five minutes. Capt. Peck then notified him that his permit had been revoked. He replied that being an American citizen he did not need a permit to express his views before the public. He was escorted by the policemen to a waiting automobile and whisked off to the station.

The crowd began congregating before 8 o'clock. Twenty-five special officers kept the streets clear until the speaker arrived when they lost control and everybody crowded around the speaker's stand, blocking the traffic on Eighth street and C street. The arrival of the Socialist was greeted by cheers from the crowd.

"When I am arrested," Pierce said in his short speech, "I will carry this case to the highest court in the District and determine definitely if the head of a police department can suspend the Constitution of the United States and refuse to allow a representative of a political party to address the public during a political campaign."

The police offered to release Pierce last night without bail upon his promise to appear at court at 9 o'clock this morning. This was refused. He was then held under \$20 bond.

In a statement to the police Pierce said that if he was released he would attempt more speeches. Through his attorney it was announced that he would plead not guilty and demand a trial by jury. His defenses, it was said, would be on the grounds that the police were exceeding their powers when they revoked his permit without a hearing. This, it is stated, was never done before in the District of Columbia.

Alexandria Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold its regular meeting tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce.

Evangelist F. E. Gibson last night delivered an address on "The Leopard and the Beast" at the gospel tent. He quoted different portions of the Bible which he alleged show that this nondescript described in scripture represents the political and ecclesiastical power of Rome. His subject tonight will be "Baptism."

On appeal of Edgar R. Trowell and J. N. Thomas, complainants, for the appointment of a new receiver for the Capital City Telephone Company, this city, and the Central Trust Co. to take the place of the late Samuel P. Fisher, the corporation court has appointed Francis F. Marbury to fill that position, who has given bond in the sum of \$5,000.

An indirect electric lighting system is being installed in St. Paul's P. E. Church, arc lights having been recently placed on pillars on the outside of the church, according to recent announcement in the Gazette, and it is later expected that the Norton Memorial building, which adjoins the church on the north and which is used by the church as headquarters for the Sunday school will be wired for electric illumination.

Capt. William B. Smithers has returned to his home in this city after being confined for a few weeks in John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore after an operation. Capt. Smithers was accompanied to this city from Baltimore by his wife and Frank W. Latham.

The girls of the younger set, who have been guests at the Germans of the Junior Assembly during the past season, will give a dance complimentary to the members of the assembly Thursday evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Kemper, in Rosemont.

### ATTACKS GOMPERS

Senator Sherman Says Labor Leader is a Public Nuisance

Senator Sherman, of Illinois, made a bitter personal attack upon President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor and also charged the Democratic administration with creating 12,000 new jobs aggregating \$11,000,000 in salaries, during a speech on the shipping bill late yesterday.

Referring to Gompers, Sherman said: "Samuel Gompers has shown in the conduct of the affairs of his organization that he intends to attempt to deliver the organized labor vote of this country. I do not believe this man is capable of so controlling the members of organized labor."

"The rule of Gompers," he continued, "has been tyrannical and arbitrary. He has issued his edicts against public men and attempted to drive them from office because they would not follow his dictation."

"As the would-be censor of other's political opinion, he ought to be thankful he was not indicted with the Indianapolis dynamiters, because he issued a statement that they were innocent and had been persecuted by capital. Gompers, himself, is a public nuisance."

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

According to announcement yesterday, the feast of the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is being observed today at St. Mary's Catholic Church with special meeting of the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin, which will take place tonight at 7:30 o'clock.

### DEATH NOTICE

Tuesday, August 15, at 9:15 a. m., Charles Henry McKnight, son of the late William H. and Margaret J. McKnight. Funeral from the residence, 208 south St. Asaph street, Thursday afternoon, at 4 o'clock. In testament private. Please omit flowers.

Hard and soft shell crabs on sale at the Rammel Hotel Cafe.

## BATTLESHIP DESTROYED

Fire and Explosion on Italian Ship Leonardo de Vinci

## 300 MEN ARE DROWNED

Catches Fire and One Magazine Explodes While Attempts Are Made to Beach Man-of-War.

Paris, Aug. 15.—The Italian battleship Leonardo da Vinci caught fire and after several explosions turned over and sank in the harbor at Tarento, according to a Turin dispatch to the Petit Journal today.

About 300 of her crew were drowned.

One of the ship's magazines exploded while efforts were being made to beach her. The blaze is thought to have started in the kitchen.

Naval experts believe she can be refloated.

The Leonardo da Vinci was one of the new Italian dreadnaughts, having been constructed late in 1913. She displaced 22,340 tons and was 500 feet long.

Her principal armament consisted of thirteen 12-inch guns. She carried a crew of about 1,000 men.

### ELEPHANT BUTTE DAM

President Will Touch Bottom and Bring in 200,000 Acres of Fertile Land

El Paso, Texas, Aug. 15.—When President Wilson touches the golden key which will start the waters of the Rio Grande flowing through the spillways of the great Elephant Butte dam on October 14, he will "bring in" 200,000 acres of fertile lands in the chain of valleys in New Mexico, Texas and Old Mexico. The first meeting of the 23rd International Irrigation Congress will be held at the dam dedication and followed by sessions in El Paso, October 16, 17 and 18.

The Elephant Butte dam is a mass of concrete and steel thrown across the Rio Grande on the desert of New Mexico at the point where a great rock, formed like the head and body of a mastadonic elephant, seems to drink from the Rio Grande. This giant impounding dam has formed the largest irrigation reservoir in the world. More than 45 miles in length and 8 miles across, the lake stores the melted snows of the Colorado Mountains and these life-giving waters are allowed to flow through the spillways of the dam when the land needs moisture for the growing season, thus causing the desert acres below the dam to blossom and bear fruitage.

"The dedication of the Elephant Butte dam by President Wilson on October 14 will be an event of world-wide importance in the irrigation field," states James G. Mcary, president of the First National Bank of El Paso and Chairman of the Board of Control of the Irrigation Congress. "It will mark the Reclamation Service's greatest achievement. It will reward the pioneer men and women of the lower Rio Grande valleys from Albuquerque to Old Mexico and it will justify the faith of the people of the southwest who have staked their all on the fertility of the soil and the ability of the project to carry the waters to the lands when most needed. Above all, it will be perpetual monument to the Irrigation Congress, which has been conducting a great empire-building campaign for the past twenty five years."

"We anticipate that President Wilson will be accompanied by several members of his official family, including Hon. Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior, and probably other members of his cabinet; Hon. A. A. Jones, first assistant secretary of the interior; Judge Will R. King, chief counsel and other members of the Reclamation Service."

Hard Shelled Crabs at the Rammel Cafe, Royal Street.

## DRAWS NEAR TO LEMBERG

Zborow and Tusto Baoy Fall During Muscovite Drive

## CLOSING UPON HALICZ

Teutons' Desperate Resistance Fails to Check Slavs' Advance—Belgians With Czar's Army

Petrograd, Aug. 15.—The Russians have pierced the new Austro-German line on the Zlota Lipa river at a new point, having crossed to the west bank of the river in a 20-mile advance from the upper Stripa, it was officially announced today.

London, Aug. 15.—Having captured the town of Zborow, on the Stripa, General Sakharoff, commanding the right wing of the Russian armies in Galicia yesterday had pushed his line within 49 miles of Lemberg, the Austrian crown land's capital.

At the same time the Russian left wing, commanded by General Letichsky, closing in on the fortified railway city of Halicz, took Tusto Baoy, less than 13 miles northeast of its objective.

Tusto Baoy, which lies on the west bank of the Zlota Lipa, was stubbornly defended to the last by the Austro-German forces who are trying with might and main to retard the Russian advance in order to save the bulk of the Austrian throne heir's army from envelopment. The town was taken in spite of "terrific machine gun fire," according to last night's official Petrograd statement.

Berlin, Aug. 15.—Violent fighting is under way in Galicia, particularly in the Stanislaw region, where the Russians are delivering attacks unceasingly. The official Austrian statement of Sunday reports the repulse of several Russian assaults. The announcement follows:

"Front of Archduke Charles Francis: Southeast of Voroch our troops maintained their positions in the face of violent attacks by the enemy, which failed completely. In the district just west of Stanislaw two Russian divisions were repulsed in violent fighting which is continuing by day and night. East of the Dniester only detachments of small force are engaged on our side."

"Front of Field Marshal von Hindenburg: Northwest of Zalozec General Boehm-Ermolli once more repulsed attacks by masses of Russian troops."

"In the district of Brody a Russian Albatross aeroplane was set on fire by a shot and then brought down by an Austro-Hungarian aviator."

"In Volhynia and along the Stokhod the engagements were less bitter. It is stated with certainty that during the last attacks along the Stokhod front, which failed completely, the Russian Guard was employed and that it suffered still heavier losses than the other formations of the enemy."

### FRENCH WIN LINES

Capture German Trenches on 300-Yard Front to Depth of 100 Yards

Paris, Aug. 15.—A French grenade attack on the northeastern front of Verdun last night resulted in the capture of German trenches on a 300-yard front to a depth of 100 yards. It was officially announced today. The gain was made in the vicinity of Sainte Fine Chapel, at the intersection of the Fleury and Vaux roads.

German counter attacks in this region were immediately checked. The Germans bombarded French positions at Fleury and on the Vaux-Chaprot sector.

A German detachment last night penetrated a French salient northwest of Beaulne, in the region north of the Aisne, after an intense bombardment. They were later expelled by a French counter attack.

French artillery was very active on the Somme front last night, but no important infantry engagements occurred.